

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-16. (canceled)

17. (new) A device for supporting barrels, comprising:

at least two posts (4);

at least one cross piece (34) forming a connection between said at least two posts; and

a curved element (28) supporting each barrel, a curved end of said curved element (28) being connected to a lateral surface of said cross piece (34) to limit a flexure of said curved element (28) relative to said cross piece.

18. (new) The device according to claim 17, wherein at least two of said elements (28) are connected in an overhanging fashion to the cross piece (34) and are disposed on opposite sides of the cross piece (34) so as to balance loads.

19. (new) The device according to claim 17, wherein the element (28) comprises bearing points (50) for the barrels whose position is adjustable as a function of a size of the barrels.

20. (new) The device according to claim 19, wherein the bearing points (50) comprise a roller (52) connected to an axle (54).

21. (new) The device according to claim 20, wherein a position of roller is adjustable along the axle (54).

22. (new) The device according to claim 17, wherein at least one of the posts (14) is prestressed.

23. (new) The device according to claim 22, wherein the at least one prestressed post each comprise at least one hollow element in which is disposed a tension member (18) permitting exerting a compressive force.

24. (new) The device according to claim 23, wherein at least one tube (36) is connected to one end of the cross piece (34), said tube (36) constituting a hollow element of the post (14).

25. (new) The device according to claim 24, wherein the at least one tube (36) is provided at each end of the cross piece (34).

26. (new) The device according to claim 22, wherein the prestressed post (14) can comprise at least one ring (46)

disposed between a tension member (18) and at least one tubular element, an internal diameter of the ring (46) being substantially adjusted to an external diameter of the tension member (18) and an external diameter of the ring being adjusted to an internal diameter of the at least one tubular element.

27. (new) The device according to claim 26, wherein the ring (46) comprises at least one small collar (48) adapted to be disposed between the tubular elements.

28. (new) The device according to claim 26, wherein an edge of the ring (46) in contact with the tension member (18) is chamfered or rounded.

29. (new) A device for supporting barrels, comprising:
at least two posts (4);
at least a cross piece (34) forming a connection between said at least two posts; and

a curved element (28) supporting each barrel, a curved end of said curved element (28) being connected to a lateral surface of said cross piece (34) to limit a flexure of said curved element (28) relative to said cross piece,

wherein at least two of said elements (28) are connected in an overhanging fashion to the cross piece (34) and are disposed on opposite sides of the cross piece (34) so as to balance loads.

30. (new) The device according to claim 29, wherein the element (28) comprises bearing points (50) for the barrels whose position is adjustable as a function of a size of the barrels.

31. (new) The device according to claim 30, wherein the bearing points (50) comprise a roller (52) connected to an axle (54).

32. (new) The device according to claim 31, wherein a position of roller is adjustable along the axle (54).

33. (new) The device according to claim 29, wherein at least one of the posts (14) is prestressed.

34. (new) The device according to claim 33, wherein the at least one prestressed post each comprise at least one hollow element in which is disposed a tension member (18) permitting exerting a compressive force.

35. (new) The device according to claim 34, wherein at least one tube (36) is connected to one end of the cross piece (34), said tube (36) constituting a hollow element of the post (14).

36. (new) The device according to claim 35, wherein the at least one tube (36) is provided at each end of the cross piece (34).